

REMARKS

Prior to this Amendment, Claims 1-19 were pending in the application. The Examiner rejected Claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,574,195 to *Roberts* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,216,167 to *Momirov*. The Examiner did not render a disposition on Claims 11-19.

Please cancel Claims 1-5 and 16-19. Please amend Claims 6-15 as set forth herein. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, Claims 6-15 are currently pending herein.

Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the Preliminary Amendment that was filed herein on December 22, 2006, in which Applicants presented for examination new Claims 11-19. However, it is respectfully asserted that the Office Action did not mention Claims 11-19, making it apparent that the Examiner failed to consider the Preliminary Amendment, which included the currently pending claims at the time when the Examiner issued the Office Action.

In a conversation on August 2, 2007 with Examiner Richard Chang, it was discovered by Applicants' counsel, Ryan C. Carter, Esq., that the Examiner indeed did not consider all of the claims in the Preliminary Amendment. Said counsel discussed with the Examiner that due to Applicants' filing of the same over six months prior to the aforementioned Office Action date, the Examiner had plenty of time to consider the Preliminary Amendment. It is respectfully acknowledged that the Examiner agreed, and recommended that Applicants file this Response, without addressing the merits of the rejection until a complete Office Action addressing all of the claims herein is issued.

Accordingly, Applicants have filed this Response with the foregoing explanation, and it is respectfully requested that the Office Action be vacated and that a new Office Action be issued based on the currently pending claims, which are now Claims 6-15 as set forth in the Amendment herein.

Claims 6-15 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell", written over a horizontal line.

Paul J. Farrell

Reg. No. 33,494

Attorney for Applicant

THE FARRELL LAW FIRM, PC

333 Earle Ovington Blvd., Suite 702

Uniondale, New York 11553

Tel: (516) 228-3565

Fax: (516) 228-8475

PJF/RCC/dr